IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFF PECEIVED

pplicant(s):

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GROUP 3600

Appl. No.:

09/852,566

Conf. No.:

6260

Filed: Title: May 10, 2001

ELECTRONIC SETTLEMENT SYSTEM, SETTLEMENT MANAGEMENT

DEVICE, STORE DEVICE, CLIENT DEVICE, DATA STORAGE DEVICE,

COMPUTER PROGRAM, AND STORAGE MEDIUM

Art Unit:

3621

Examiner:

J. Worjloh

Docket No.:

112857-245

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 88 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 97 of this paper.